



## State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

### PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

#### TOWN OF NEWBURGH

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements: Flow Equalization, UV Disinfection & Force Main  
SRF # WW06 59 87 05**

**Date: December 17, 2008**

**Comments must be received by January 16, 2009**

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in Addendum #1 dated August 12, 2008 and received August 26, 2008 will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a Preliminary Decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

The purpose of this notice is to seek input and comments on the SRF's preliminary decision that neither an Environmental Assessment (EA) nor an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required to implement the recommendations discussed in the attached Categorical Exclusion.

#### *How were environmental issues considered?*

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an EA or an EIS.

#### *Why is additional environmental review not required?*

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

#### *How do I submit comments?*

Any comments supporting or disagreeing with this preliminary decision should be submitted within 30 days of the above date to:

Max Henschen, Senior Environmental Manager  
SRF Programs  
100 North Senate Ave.; IGCN 1275  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

#### *What happens next?*

If we do not receive substantive comments during the 30-day comment period which indicate that serious environmental issues exist, the SRF's preliminary decision will become final. If the scope of the project changes significantly, the final notice will be revoked and the project's environmental impacts will be reevaluated. In such a case, a new Categorical Exclusion may be issued for another 30-day comment period, or the SRF Loan Program will prepare an EA or EIS; we may also reaffirm our earlier decision of Categorical Exclusion by issuing a memo or letter to the project's State Revolving Fund Official Loan File.

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## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

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### I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address:	<b>Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Addendum #1 to Approved PER</b> Town of Newburgh P.O. Box 6 23 West Jennings Street Newburgh, IN 47629
SRF Project Number:	WW06 59 87 05
Authorized Representative:	Mr. William Kavanaugh, President Town Council

### II. PROJECT LOCATION

Newburgh is located in southwestern Warrick County in southwest Indiana. The study area includes the town, Ohio Township, and a small portion of Boon Township in Warrick County. The town's study area and 20-year service area are one and the same. The town's project area is the grassy area, approximately 0.4 acres, between the south end of the existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) and a wooded area; the project area is in Anderson Township, Yankeetown USGS topographic quadrangle, T7S, R8W, center of section 6; see Figure 1.

### III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program approved a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for improvements to the wastewater treatment plant on February 11, 2008, which identified a peak hourly flow rate of 14.8 million gallons per day (MGD). The town experienced several heavy rains this year which required a reevaluation of the peak design flow rate. During the heavy rains, the plant experienced peak hourly flows of approximately 15.7 MGD; therefore, the town decided that the peak flow rate should be increased up to 19 MGD.

The following treatment plant components were affected by the change in the peak flow rate: (1) size and number of the sequencing batch reactor (SBR) effluent lines, (2) capacity of the ultraviolet disinfection system and the piping upstream and downstream of the disinfection system, and (3) the flow equalization tank, which will be upsized to dampen the peak flow rate.

The UV system will be expanded to 24 MGD in order to match the peak discharge rate of the SBR tank, and the flow equalization (FEQ) tank will be enlarged to approximately 220,000 gallons to match the effectiveness of the existing chlorine contact tank. The chlorine contact tank has proven to be very effective, not only in solids and floatables removal, but also in dampening the surges from the SBR system. The enlarged FEQ tank will result in more efficient operation of the UV system.

The location of the UV system and flow equalization tank were also changed from the project approved in February, 2008. These units were originally planned to be located on the western edge of the WWTP site. Their increased size requires that they be relocated to an area just south of the WWTP between the WWTP fence and a wooded area.

In addition to the changes to the UV and equalization systems, a 24-inch diameter force main will be laid across the existing disturbed WWTP site to the Headworks Building and will be financed with local funds; this line is not illustrated in the graphics.

The town rejected the "no action" alternative because without increasing the peak design flow, more sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) would occur during heavy rains. The town's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit prohibits SSOs, which create a public health hazard. The selected alternative is to enlarge the capacities of the FEQ and the UV systems and move them from within the fenced WWTP site, as originally planned and approved by the SRF, to just south of the WWTP fence.

#### **IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COST AND FUNDING**

The total project cost has increased from \$17 million in the SRF-approved PER to \$18.1 million. The town will borrow approximately \$18.1 million from the SRF for a 20-year term at an annual interest rate to be determined at loan closing. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

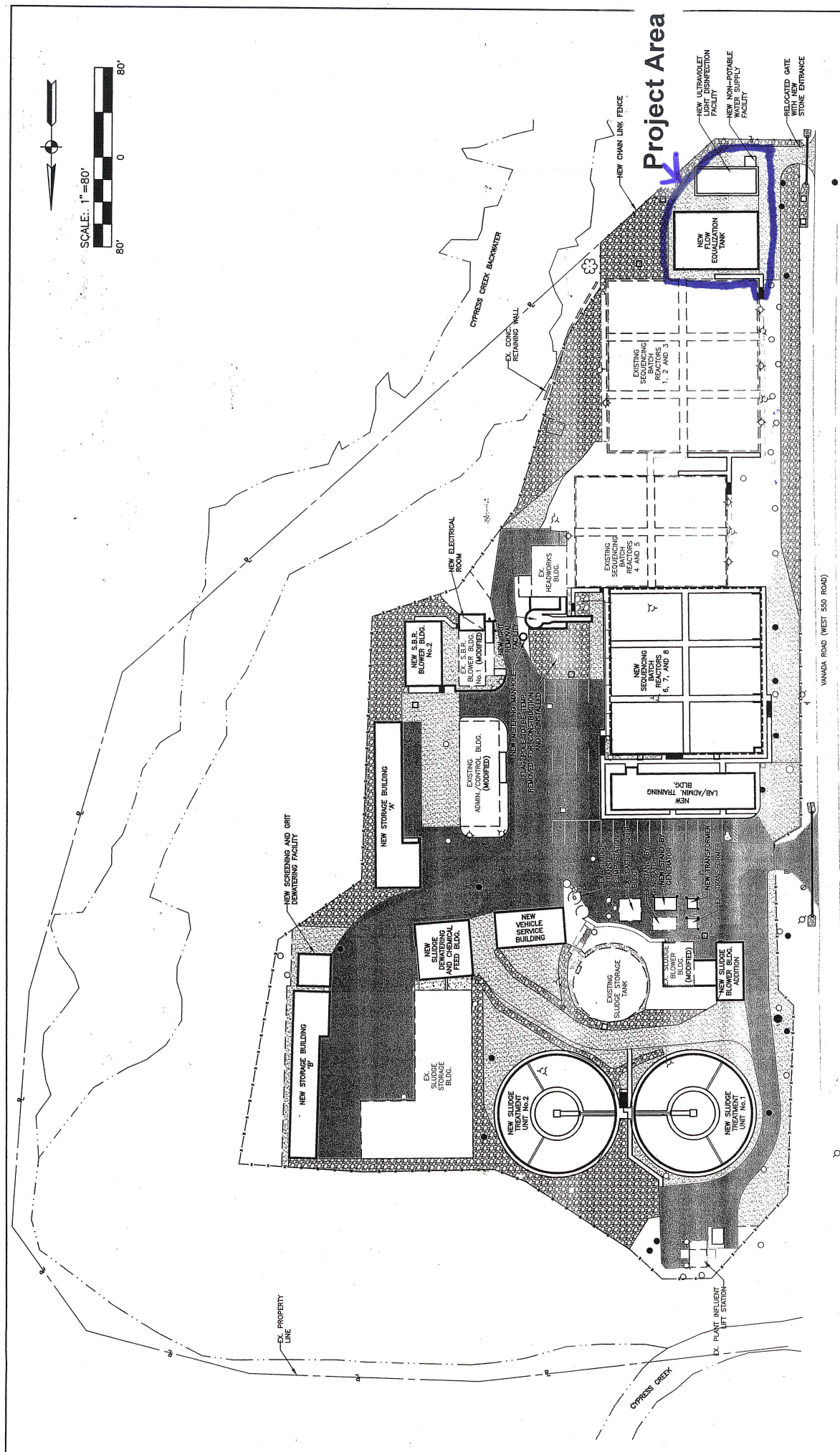
#### **V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES**

The site of the proposed expansion just south of the WWTP is a grassy site. The town's consultant, in correspondence dated September 4, 2008, has stated: *Originally, there was an open drainage swale (in the grassy site) running perpendicular to (Vanada) Road. During the last construction project (in 1999), a drain pipe was installed in the open drainage swale with a bee-hive inlet. The pipe was covered over with dirt. Then, all the area south of the swale had 2 to 3 feet of topsoil stripped from it for use in the construction project. The area north of the swale was disturbed during the construction of the new SBR tankage. Thus, this whole grassed plot has had significant, prior construction disturbance. The current proposed construction project will only impact the above-referenced grassed area. There will be no disturbance to the adjacent trees or forested wetland (i.e., the Cypress Creek forested wetland). Figure 2 presents an aerial plan view of the UV system and FEQ tank. The town will implement typical construction mitigation measures to avoid erosion and siltation into the wetland complex. The project will occur in the 100-year floodplain.*

Figures 3a and 3b show the project area relative to the Warrick County Interim Report maps. There will be no direct impacts to sites listed in the Interim Report; visual impacts, if any, will be temporary. The SRF's finding pursuant to Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

#### **VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A public notice describing the amended project was placed in the "Newburgh Register" on both October 23, 2008 and October 30, 2008.







**Figure 2: Project Area**

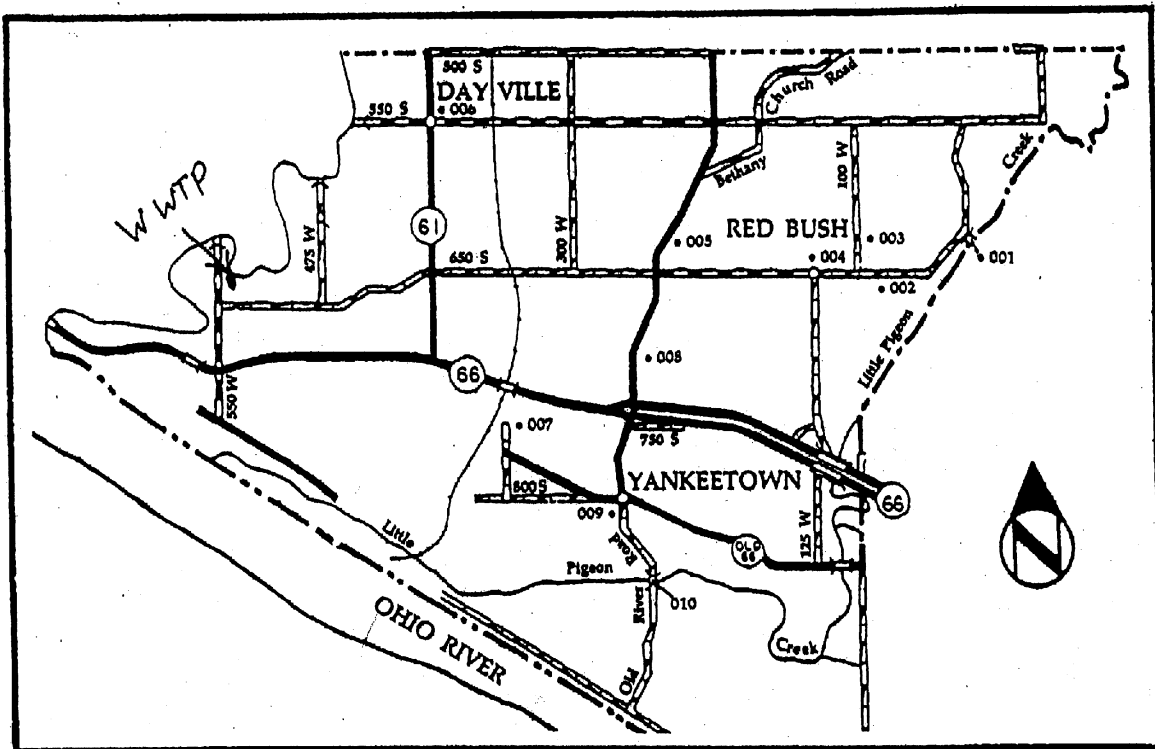
AERIAL PLAN VIEW

scale: 1 inch = 46 feet

**COMMONWEALTH  
ENGINEERS, INC.**

TOWN OF NEWBURGH, INDIANA  
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT  
WWTP EXPANSION PROJECT  
AERIAL PLAN OF NEW FLOW EQUALIZATION  
AND U.V. FACILITIES EXHIBIT 5-5

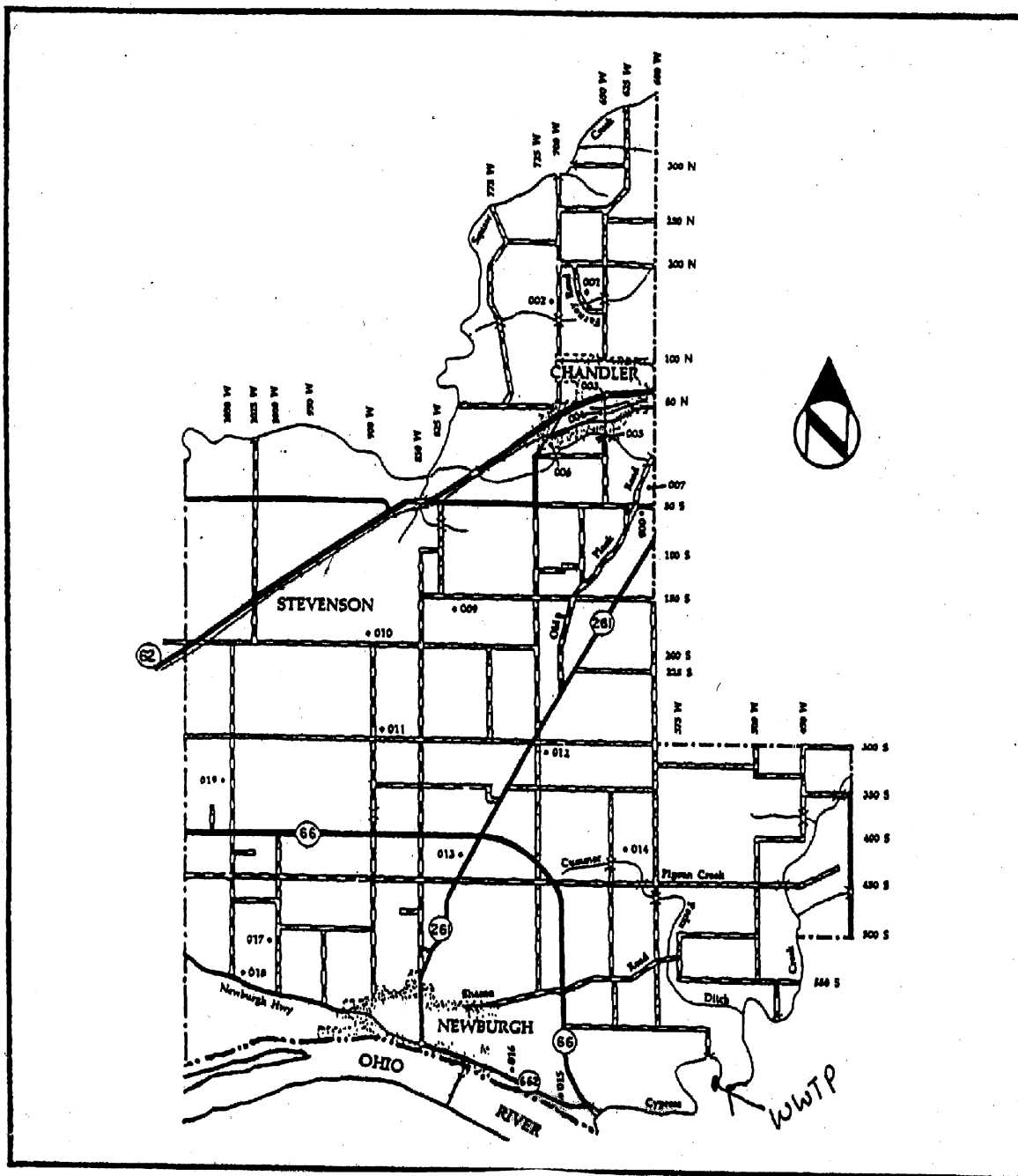




No. Rtg. Description

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|-----|---|--|-----|---|---|
| 001 | O | Bridge, off Bush Road; Bow-Suspension, c.1920; Engineering, Transportation (695)       | 006 | C | House, 550 S; Carpenter-BUILDER, c.1900; Architecture (695)   |
| 002 | N | Kaiser House, 650 S; Greek Revival, 1871; Architecture, Exploration-Settlement (695)   | 007 | N | Bates House, 350 W; Greek Revival/Italianate, c.1852; Architecture (695)  |
| 003 | C | House, 100 W; Carpenter-BUILDER, c.1900; Architecture (695)                            | 008 | C | Wesley Wilson House, Boone Street, Yankeetown; Carpenter-BUILDER/Eastlake, c.1895, Architecture (695)                                     |
| 004 | O | St. Rupert's Church, 650 S; Romanesque Revival, 1902; Architecture, Religion (695)     | 009 | C | Belle House, River Road; Gothic Revival, c.1880; Architecture (695)   |
| 005 | C | Huffman House, Yankeetown Road; Carpenter-BUILDER/Eastlake, c.1890; Architecture (695) | 010 | O | Bridge, River Road; Double-Intersection Pratt Through Truss, c.1900; Wrought Iron Bridge Co., BUILDERS; Engineering, Transportation (695) |

Figure 3a: Anderson Township, Warrick County  
Interim Report of Historic Sites & Structures



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**Figure 3b: Ohio Township, Warrick County  
Interim Report of Historic Sites & Structures**